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# State of California Office of Administrative Law

by EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

In re:

**Board of Equalization** 

**Regulatory Action:** 

Title 18, California Code of Regulations

Adopt sections:

Amend sections: 1685.5

Repeal sections:

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF REGULATORY ACTION

Government Code Section 11349.3

OAL Matter Number: 2015-0410-02

OAL Matter Type: Regular (S)

The Board of Equalization is amending section 1685.5 in Title 18 of the California Code of Regulations. This action will update the regulation's definition of the average state, local, and district sales and use tax rate to include the rates of all the sales and use taxes imposed under article XIII of the California Constitution, which are currently the taxes imposed by section 35 and 36 of article XIII of the California Constitution.

OAL approves this regulatory action pursuant to section 11349.3 of the Government Code. This regulatory action becomes effective on 7/1/2015.

Date: May 13, 2015

Peggy J. Gibson Senior Attorney

For: DEBRA M. CORNEZ

Director

Original: Cynthia Bridges Copy: Richard Bennion

### OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

300 Capitol Mall, Suite 1250 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 323-6225 FAX (916) 323-6826

DEBRA M. CORNEZ Director



#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Richard Bennion

FROM:

OAL Front Desk

DATE:

5/18/2015

RE:

Return of Approved Rulemaking Materials

OAL File No. 2015-0410-02S

OAL hereby returns this file your agency submitted for our review (OAL File No. 2015-0410-02S regarding Calculation of Estimated Use Tax - Use Tax Table).

If this is an approved file, it contains a copy of the regulation(s) stamped "ENDORSED APPROVED" by the Office of Administrative Law and "ENDORSED FILED" by the Secretary of State. The effective date of an approved regulation is specified on the Form 400 (see item B.5). **Beginning January 1, 2013**, unless an exemption applies, Government Code section 11343.4 states the effective date of an approved regulation is determined by the date the regulation is filed with the Secretary of State (see the date the Form 400 was stamped "ENDORSED FILED" by the Secretary of State) as follows:

- (1) **January 1** if the regulation or order of repeal is filed on September 1 to November 30, inclusive.
- (2) **April 1** if the regulation or order of repeal is filed on December 1 to February 29, inclusive.
- (3) **July 1** if the regulation or order of repeal is filed on March 1 to May 31, inclusive.
- (4) October 1 if the regulation or order of repeal is filed on June 1 to August 31, inclusive.

If an exemption applies concerning the effective date of the regulation approved in this file, then it will be specified on the Form 400. The Notice of Approval that OAL sends to the state agency will contain the effective date of the regulation. The history note that will appear at the end of the regulation section in the California Code of Regulations will also include the regulation's effective date. Additionally, the effective date of the regulation will be noted on OAL's Web site once OAL posts the Internet Web site link to the full text of the regulation that is received from the state agency. (Gov. Code, secs. 11343 and 11344.)

<u>Please note this new requirement</u>: Unless an exemption applies, Government Code section 11343 now requires:

- 1. <u>Section 11343(c)(1)</u>: Within 15 days of OAL filing a state agency's regulation with the Secretary of State, the state agency is required to post the regulation on its Internet Web site in an easily marked and identifiable location. The state agency shall keep the regulation posted on its Internet Web site for at least six months from the date the regulation is filed with the Secretary of State.
- 2. <u>Section 11343(c)(2)</u>: Within five (5) days of posting its regulation on its Internet Web site, the state agency shall send to OAL the Internet Web site link of each regulation that the agency posts on its Internet Web site pursuant to section 11343(c)(1).

OAL has established an email address for state agencies to send the Internet Web site link to for each regulation the agency posts. Please send the Internet Web site link for each regulation posted to OAL at postedregslink@oal.ca.gov.

**NOTE ABOUT EXEMPTIONS.** Posting and linking requirements do not apply to emergency regulations; regulations adopted by FPPC or Conflict of Interest regulations approved by FPPC; and regulations not subject to OAL/APA review. However, an exempt agency may choose to comply with these requirements, and OAL will post the information accordingly.

### **DO NOT DISCARD OR DESTROY THIS FILE**

Due to its legal significance, you are required by law to preserve this rulemaking record. Government Code section 11347.3(d) requires that this record be available to the public and to the courts for possible later review. Government Code section 11347.3(e) further provides that "...no item contained in the file shall be removed, altered, or destroyed or otherwise disposed of." See also the State Records Management Act (Government Code section 14740 et seq.) and the State Administrative Manual (SAM) section 1600 et seq.) regarding retention of your records.

If you decide not to keep the rulemaking records at your agency/office or at the State Records Center, you may transmit it to the State Archives with instructions that the Secretary of State shall not remove, alter, or destroy or otherwise dispose of any item contained in the file. See Government Code section 11347.3(f).

Enclosures

STATE OF CALIFORNIA--OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW For use by Secretary of State only See instru ons on NOTICE PUBLICATION/REGULATION reverse) NOTICE FILE NUMBER REGULATORY ACTION NUMBER **EMERGENCY NUMBER** OAL FILE **Z**-2015-0127-01 **NUMBERS** 2015-0410-025 ENDORSED - FILED For use by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) only in the office of the Secretary of State 2015 APR 10 PK 1:01 of the State of California MAY 13 2015 OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW 2:12 PM REGULATIONS NOTICE AGENCY FILE NUMBER (If any) AGENCY WITH RULEMAKING AUTHORITY State Board of Equalization A. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE (Complete for publication in Notice Register) FIRST SECTION AFFECTED 2 REQUESTED PUBLICATION DATE 1. SUBJECT OF NOTICE TITLE(S) FAX NUMBER (Optional) TELEPHONE NUMBER 3. NOTICE TYPE Notice re Proposed 4. AGENCY CONTACT PERSON Other Regulatory Action ACTION ON PROPOSED NOTICE PUBLICATION DATE OAL USE NOTICE REGISTER NUMBER Approved as Disapproved/ Approved as 015 ONLY 62 0/5 Submitted Modified Withdrawn B. SUBMISSION OF REGULATIONS (Complete when submitting regulations) 1a. SUBJECT OF REGULATION(S) 1b. ALL PREVIOUS RELATED OAL REGULATORY ACTION NUMBER(S) Calculation of Estimated Use Tax - Use Tax Table. 2015-0127-01 2. SPECIFY CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE(S) AND SECTION(S) (Including title 26, if toxics related) **SECTION(S) AFFECTED** (List all section number(s) AMEND individually. Attach 1685.5 additional sheet if needed.) REPEAL TITLE(S) 18 3. TYPE OF FILING Regular Rulemaking (Gov. Certificate of Compliance: The agency officer named Emergency Readopt (Gov. Changes Without Regulatory Code §11346) below certifies that this agency complied with the Code, §11346.1(h)) Effect (Cal. Code Regs., title Resubmittal of disapproved or provisions of Gov. Code §§11346.2-11347.3 either 1, §100) withdrawn nonemergency before the emergency regulation was adopted or File & Print Print Only filing (Gov. Code §§11349.3, within the time period required by statute. 11349.4) Resubmittal of disapproved or withdrawn Emergency (Gov. Code, Other (Specify) emergency filing (Gov. Code, §11346.1) §11346,1(b)) 4. ALL BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES OF AVAILABILITY OF MODIFIED REGULATIONS AND/OR MATERIAL ADDED TO THE RULEMAKING FILE (Cal. Code Regs. title 1, §44 and Gov. Code §11347.1) 5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGES (Gov. Code, §§ 11343.4, 11346.1(d); Cal. Code Regs., title 1, §100) Effective January 1, April 1, July 1, or Effective §100 Changes Without Regulatory Effect October 1 (Gov. Code §11343.4(a)) Secretary of State other (Specify) 6. CHECK IF THESE REGULATIONS REQUIRE NOTICE TO, OR REVIEW, CONSULTATION, APPROVAL OR CONCURRENCE BY, ANOTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY Fair Political Practices Commission State Fire Marshal Department of Finance (Form STD. 399) (SAM §6660) Other (Specify) 7. CONTACT PERSON TELEPHONE NUMBER FAX NUMBER (Optional) E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional) (916) 324-3984 Richard E. Bennion (916) 445-2130 rbennion@boe.ca.gov For use by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) only I certify that the attached copy of the regulation(s) is a true and correct copy **ENDORSED APPROVED** of the regulation(s) identified on this form, that the information specified on this form is true and correct, and that I am the head of the agency taking this action, or a designee of the head of the agency, and am authorized to make this certification. MAY 13 2015 DATE SIGNATURE OF AGENCY HEAD OR DESIGNEE April 10, 2015 Office of Administrative Law TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY Joann Richmond, Chief, Board Proceedings Division

# Final Text of Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 18, Section 1685.5

#### 1685.5. Calculation of Estimated Use Tax - Use Tax Table.

- (a) In General.
  - (1) Estimated Use Tax and Use Tax Table. The Board of Equalization (BOE) is required to annually calculate the estimated amount of use tax due according to a person's adjusted gross income (AGI) and make such amounts available to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB), by July 30 of each year, in the form of a use tax table for inclusion in the instructions to the FTB's returns.
  - (2) Who is Eligible to Use BOE Use Tax Tables.
    - (A) Consumers may elect to use the use tax tables included in the instructions to their FTB returns to report their estimated use tax liabilities for one or more single nonbusiness purchases of individual items of tangible personal property each with a sales price of less than one thousand (\$1,000) on their FTB returns. However, eligible consumers may still calculate their actual use tax liabilities using the worksheets in the instructions to their FTB returns and report their actual use tax liabilities on their FTB returns. Consumers are not required to use the use tax tables included in the instructions to their FTB returns.
    - (B) The use tax table may not be used to estimate use tax liabilities for business purchases, including purchases made by businesses required to hold a seller's permit or to register with the BOE under the Sales and Use Tax Law and report their use tax liabilities directly to the BOE.
  - (3) Safe Harbor. If eligible consumers use the use tax tables included in the instructions to their FTB returns to estimate their use tax liabilities for qualified nonbusiness purchases and correctly report their estimated use tax liabilities for their qualified nonbusiness purchases in accordance with their AGI ranges, then the BOE may not assess the difference, if any, between the estimated use tax liabilities reported in accordance with the use tax tables and the consumers' actual use tax liabilities for qualified nonbusiness purchases.
- (b) Definitions and Data Sources.
  - (1) AGI Ranges. The use tax table shall be separated into fifteen (15) AGI ranges as follows:
    - (A) AGI less than \$10,000;
    - (B) AGI of \$10,000 to \$19,999;
    - (C) AGI of \$20,000 to \$29,999;
    - (D) AGI of \$30,000 to \$39,999;
    - (E) AGI of \$40,000 to \$49,999;

- (F) AGI of \$50,000 to \$59,999;
- (G) AGI of \$60,000 to \$69,999;
- (H) AGI of \$70,000 to \$79,999;
- (I) AGI of \$80,000 to \$89,999;
- (J) AGI of \$90,000 to \$99,999;
- (K) AGI of \$100,000 to \$124,999;
- (L) AGI of \$125,000 to \$149,999;
- (M) AGI of \$150,000 to \$174,999;
- (N) AGI of \$175,000 to \$199,999;
- (O) AGI more than \$199,999.
- (2) Use Tax Liability Factor or Use Tax Table Percentage. For the 2011 calendar year the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage shall be 0.070 percent (.0007). On June 1, 2012, the BOE shall calculate the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage for the current calendar year by multiplying the percentage of income spent on taxable purchases for the preceding calendar year by 0.37, multiplying the product by the average state, local, and district sales and use tax rate, and then rounding the result to the nearest thousandth of a percent. On June 1, 2013, and each June 1 thereafter, the BOE shall calculate the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage for the current calendar year by multiplying the percentage of income spent on taxable purchases for the preceding calendar year by 0.23, multiplying the product by the average state, local, and district sales and use tax rate, and then rounding the result to the nearest thousandth of a percent.
- (3) Total Personal Income. Total personal income shall be determined by reference to the most current personal income data published by the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis.
- (4) Total Spending at Electronic Shopping and Mail Order Houses. Total spending at electronic shopping and mail order houses shall be determined by reference to the most current electronic shopping and mail order house spending data published by the United States Census Bureau.
- (5) Total Spending on Taxable Purchases. Total spending on taxable purchases shall be determined by:
  - (A) Determining the percentage, rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent, of total spending at electronic shopping and mail order houses that are not included in the

following categories of items, by reference to the most current retail trade product lines statistics by kind of business data published by the United States Census Bureau:

- (i) Groceries and other foods for human consumption off premises, excluding bottled, canned, or packaged soft drinks;
- (ii) Prescriptions;
- (iii) Video content downloads;
- (iv) Audio content downloads;
- (v) Prepackaged computer software, including software downloads; and
- (vi) All nonmerchandise receipts.
- (B) Adding ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000) to the total spending at electronic shopping and mail order houses to account for spending that is not included in the spending data published by the United States Census Bureau; and
- (C) Multiplying the sum calculated in (B) by the percentage of total spending at electronic shopping and mail order houses that are not included in the categories of items listed in (A) above so that the result does not include spending on nontaxable purchases, and then rounding the result to the nearest tenth of a percent.
- (6) Percentage of Income Spent on Taxable Purchases. The percentage of income spent on taxable purchases during a calendar year shall be calculated by dividing the total spending on taxable purchases for that year by the total personal income for that year, multiplying the result by 100, and rounding the result to the nearest tenth of a percent.
- (7) Average State, Local, and District Sales and Use Tax Rate. The average state, local, and district sales and use tax rate for a calendar year shall be the total of:
  - (A) The rates of the statewide sales and use taxes imposed under section 35 of article XIII of the California Constitution and the Sales and Use Tax Law (Rev. & Tax. Code, § 6001 et seq.) in effect on January 1 of that year;
  - (B) The statewide rate of local tax imposed under the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (Rev. & Tax. Code, § 7200 et seq.) in effect on January 1 of that year; and
  - (C) The weighted average rate of the district taxes imposed under the Transactions and Use Tax Law (Rev. & Tax Code, § 7251 et seq.) in effect in the various jurisdictions throughout the state on January 1 of that year after taking into account the proportion of the total statewide taxable transactions (by dollar) reported for each jurisdiction during the fourth quarter of the calendar year that is two years prior to the calendar year for

which the calculation is made. For example, the total reported taxable transactions (by dollar) for the fourth quarter of 2010 shall be used to determine the weighted average rate of the district tax rates in effect on January 1, 2012, to calculate the weighted average rate of district taxes for calendar year 2012.

- (c) Calculation of the Estimated Use Tax Liability.
  - (1) The estimated use tax liability for the AGI range described in subdivision (b)(1)(A) shall be determined by multiplying \$5,000 by the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage and then rounding the result to the nearest whole dollar.
  - (2) The estimated use tax liability for the AGI ranges described in subdivision (b)(1)(B) through (N) shall be determined by multiplying the midpoint of each AGI range by the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage and then rounding the result to the nearest whole dollar.
  - (3) The estimated use tax liability for the AGI range described in subdivision (b)(1)(O) shall be determined by multiplying each range member's actual AGI by the use tax liability factor or use tax table percentage and then rounding the result to the nearest whole dollar.
- (d) Use Tax Table Format.
  - (1) The use tax table for calendar year 2011 shall provide as follows:

Adjusted Gross Income					
(AGI) Range			Use Tax Liability		
Less Than \$20,000			\$7		
\$20,000	to	\$39,999	\$21		
\$40,000	to	\$59,999	\$35		
\$60,000	to	\$79,999	\$49		
\$80,000	to	\$99,999	\$63		
\$100,000	to	\$149,999	\$88		
\$150,000	to	\$199,999	\$123		
More than \$199,999 - Multiply AGI by 0.070% (.0007)					

(2) The use tax tables for calendar year 2012 and subsequent years shall utilize the same format as follows:

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)					
I	Rang	Use Tax Liability			
Less Than \$1	0,00	\$			
\$10,000	to	\$19,999	\$		
\$20,000	to	\$29,999	\$		
\$30,000	to	\$39,999	\$		
\$40,000	to	\$49,999	\$		
\$50,000	to	\$59,999	\$		
\$60,000	to	\$69,999	\$		
\$70,000	to	\$79,999	\$		
\$80,000	to	\$89,999	\$		
\$90,000	to	\$99,999	\$		
\$100,000	to	\$124,999	\$		
\$125,000	to	\$149,000	\$		
\$150,000	to	\$174,999	\$		
\$175,000	to	\$199,999	\$		
More than \$199,999 -Multiply AGI by % (.000)					

Note: Authority cited: Section 7051, Revenue and Taxation Code. Reference: Section 6452.1, Revenue and Taxation Code.